

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0091

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DEPT PLEASE PASS DOE, NRC, DOC

E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINR FR  
SUBJ: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: ANDRE GIRAUD, MINISTER  
OF INDUSTRY

1. ANDRE GIRAUD WAS NAMED MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN  
APRIL 1978. FOLLOWING IS BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION:  
GIRAUD WAS BORN IN BORDEAUX ON APRIL 3, 1925. HE  
RECEIVED DIPLOMAS FROM THE ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE AND THE  
ECOLE NATIONALE SUPERIEURE DES PETROLES. IN 1951 HE  
BECAME HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF THE FRENCH PETROLEUM  
INSTITUTE (IFP), IN 1955, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR AND FROM  
1958 TO 1964 HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL. FROM  
1960 TO 1964 HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE "DOUZE SAGES". IN  
1964 HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF FUELS, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY.  
SINCE 1964 HE HAS BEEN A GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER ON THE  
BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF THE "CIE FRANCAISE DES PETROLES"  
AND THE "CIE FRANCAISE DE RAFFINAGE" OF THE IFP AND  
ERAP. HE WAS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FUEL COMMISSION AND  
OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION UNDER THE FIFTH PLAN AND A  
MEMBER OF THE PLAN'S CHEMISTRY COMMISSION. HE WAS AN  
ADMINISTRATOR OF IRCHA; AN ADMINISTRATOR, THEN VICE  
PRESIDENT, OF THE RENAULT FACTORIES. SINCE 1965 HE HAS  
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BEEN VICE PRESIDENT OF THE OCEAN EXPLORATION COMMITTEE  
OF THE DGRST AND A MEMBER OF THE FRANCO-ALGERIAN TREATY  
COMMITTEE. IN 1970 HE WAS APPOINTED GENERAL  
ADMINISTRATOR DELEGATE OF THE FRENCH ATOMIC ENERGY  
COMMISSION (CEA). HE IS A FOREIGN MEMBER OF THE US  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING.

2. COMMENT: GIRAUD IS WELL KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY SCIENCE OFFICE AND IS VERY WELL KNOWN TO THE US NUCLEAR COMMUNITY. HE IS THE FRENCH TECHNOCRAT'S TECHNOCRAT AND HE WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE GROUP OF ALUMNI OF THE ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE AND ECOLE DES MINES WHO HAVE GRADUATED AT THE TOP OF THEIR CLASS, THE TOP COUNCIL OF THE FRENCH "GRANDES ECOLES" ALUMNI SYSTEM WHICH CARRIES A SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE IN THE OPERATION OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. GIRAUD WILL KEEP A TIGHT REIN ON THE FRENCH ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION AND BE HEAVILY INVOLVED IN FRENCH ENERGY ISSUES. HIS PROBABLE PERFORMANCE IN OTHER INDUSTRY SECTORS IS NOT KNOWN ALTHOUGH HIS PAST PERFORMANCE INDICATES THAT HE WOULD FAVOR DE GAULLE'S APPROACH OF HEAVILY FINANCED DOMESTIC R&D TO CREATE AN ECONOMICALLY VIABLE NATIONAL INDUSTRY.  
HARTMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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